

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 28, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

## ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2216

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Bonta**

February 18, 2016

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~~An act to add Section 127941 to~~ *An act to add Article 1.5 (commencing with Section 128245) to Chapter 4 of Part 3 of Division 107 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to health workforce development.*

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2216, as amended, Bonta. ~~Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education: Primary care residency programs:~~ grant program.

Existing federal and state laws contain programs that authorize loan forgiveness to physicians, dentists, and individuals enrolled in a postsecondary institution studying medicine or dentistry who agree to practice in medically or dentally underserved areas. ~~The~~ *Under existing law, the* Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education (THCGME) program was created by the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act for the purpose of awarding grants to teaching health centers for the purpose of establishing new accredited or expanded primary care residency programs.

~~This bill would require the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development and the State Department of Health Care Services to provide technical assistance as follows: (1) to support the expansion of primary care residency programs at THCGME programs, (2) to THCGME programs in federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) and rural health clinics to support the maximizing of federal financial participation, and (3) to Medi-Cal providers, including FQHCs,~~

~~community mental health centers, rural health clinics, Indian Health Service or tribal clinics, and Title X family planning clinics interested in establishing an accredited primary care residency program.~~

*This bill would establish the Teaching Health Center Primary Care Graduate Medical Education Fund for purposes of funding primary care residency programs, as specified, subject to appropriation by the Legislature. The bill would establish criteria for the awarding of grants under these provisions to teaching health centers, as defined. The bill would require the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development and the Director of Statewide Health Planning and Development to administer these provisions, as specified. The bill would require the office to adopt emergency regulations to implement these provisions.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     SECTION 1. Article 1.5 (commencing with Section 128245) is  
2     added to Chapter 4 of Part 3 of Division 107 of the Health and  
3     Safety Code, to read:

4  
5     Article 1.5. Teaching Health Center Primary Care Graduate  
6             Medical Education Act of 2016  
7

8     128245. For purposes of this article, the following terms have  
9     the following meanings:

10    (a) "Director" means the Director of Statewide Health Planning  
11    and Development.

12    (b) "Fund" means the Teaching Health Center Primary Care  
13    Graduate Medical Education Fund.

14    (c) "Office" means the Office of Statewide Health Planning  
15    and Development.

16    (d) "Teaching health center" has the same meaning as defined  
17    in Article 1 (commencing with Section 128200).

18    128246. There is in the State Treasury the Teaching Health  
19    Center Primary Care Graduate Medical Education Fund, which  
20    fund is hereby created.

21    128247. (a) Subject to appropriation by the Legislature, the  
22    director shall award planning and development grants from the

1 *fund to teaching health centers for the purpose of establishing new*  
2 *accredited or expanded primary care residency programs.*

3 *(b) Grants awarded under this section shall be for a term of not*  
4 *more than three years and the maximum award to a teaching health*  
5 *center shall not be more than five hundred thousand dollars*  
6 *(\$500,000).*

7 *(c) A grant awarded pursuant to this section shall be used to*  
8 *cover the costs of establishing or expanding a primary care*  
9 *residency training program described in subdivision (a), including*  
10 *costs associated with curriculum development, recruitment,*  
11 *training, and retention of residents and faculty, accreditation by*  
12 *the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education*  
13 *(ACGME), the American Dental Association (ADA), or the*  
14 *American Osteopathic Association (AOA), faculty salaries during*  
15 *the development phase, and technical assistance.*

16 *(d) A teaching health center seeking a grant under this section*  
17 *shall submit an application to the office in the format prescribed*  
18 *by the office. The director shall evaluate those applications and*  
19 *award grants based on criteria consistent with a teaching health*  
20 *center's readiness and other factors indicating the likelihood of*  
21 *success at implementing a primary care residency program.*

22 *128248. (a) Subject to appropriation by the Legislature, the*  
23 *director shall award sustaining grants from the fund to teaching*  
24 *health centers operating primary care residency programs*  
25 *accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical*  
26 *Education (ACGME), the American Dental Association (ADA),*  
27 *or the American Osteopathic Association (AOA).*

28 *(b) The office shall determine the amount of grants awarded*  
29 *per resident by taking into account the direct and indirect costs*  
30 *of graduate medical education. The amount of grants awarded per*  
31 *resident shall be updated, as appropriate, on an annual basis.*

32 *128249. The office shall promulgate emergency regulations*  
33 *to implement this article.*

34 **SECTION 1.** ~~Section 127941 is added to the Health and Safety~~  
35 ~~Code, to read:~~

36 ~~127941. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature to increase the~~  
37 ~~number of primary care physicians in California serving~~  
38 ~~underserved communities by enacting incentives to support the~~  
39 ~~sustainability and expansion of current federal Teaching Health~~  
40 ~~Center Graduate Medical Education (THCGME) programs (42~~

1 U.S.C. Section 2931-1), for individuals who participate in, or were  
2 recipients of, teaching health center development grants in federally  
3 qualified health centers (FQHCs), community mental health  
4 centers, rural health clinics, Indian Health Service or tribal clinics,  
5 and Title X family planning clinics (Subchapter VII (commencing  
6 with Section 300) of Chapter 6A of Title 42 of the United States  
7 Code).

8 (b) The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development  
9 and the State Department of Health Care Services shall provide  
10 technical assistance to support the expansion of primary care  
11 residency programs at THCGME programs.

12 (c) The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development  
13 and the State Department of Health Care Services shall provide  
14 technical assistance to THCGME programs in FQHCs and rural  
15 health clinics to support the maximizing of federal financial  
16 participation.

17 (d) The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development  
18 and the State Department of Health Care Services shall provide  
19 technical assistance to Medi-Cal providers, including FQHCs,  
20 community mental health centers, rural health clinics, Indian Health  
21 Service or tribal clinics, and Title X family planning clinics  
22 interested in establishing an accredited primary care residency  
23 program.